



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 10, 2002

### **H.R. 4514**

### **Veterans' Major Medical Facilities Construction Act of 2002**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on May 9, 2002*

H.R. 4514 would authorize the appropriation of \$285 million in 2003 to be used for improving, renovating, and updating medical centers in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). It also would authorize about \$3 million to lease an outpatient clinic in Charlotte, North Carolina. The bill would authorize specific projects for improved earthquake protection, and other changes to existing facilities and set spending limits for each project. H.R. 4514 also would raise the threshold for projects to be financed out of the appropriation for major medical facility construction from \$4 million to \$6 million. (Thus, under the bill projects costing up to \$6 million would be considered minor construction.) Finally, H.R. 4514 would define in greater detail the criteria for VA to use in selecting minor construction projects.

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4514 would cost \$13 million in 2003 and \$279 million over the 2003-2007 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Because the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 4514 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Sam Papenfuss. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.